URBAN DISTRICT OF ROYTON.

the

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year 1969

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ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council, 1969 - 1970

Councillor G.A. Sidgwick B.A.

Health Committee 1969 - 1970

Councillor G.A. Sidgwick B.A.Chairman

Councillor G.S. Nield Vice-Chairman

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" W.A. Hilton J.P.
" A. Houghton.
" V. Lockwood. (Mrs.)
" K. Moores.
" G. Sherratt. J.P.
" J. Stubley.
" D. Walker.
" J.E. Weston.

Medical Officer of Health

Gilbert R. Brackenridge M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Town Hall, Royton.
Telephone No. MAIn (Oldham) 5271

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Joan M. Curtis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. Buckley, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Neil H. Morton, M.A.P.H.I.
M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.
(Resigned September, 1969)

Meat Inspectors

John Salt, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

John B. Smith M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

Smoke Control Officer

J. Spence

Clerk/Typist

Mrs. A. Settle

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
ROYTON.

July, 1970.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Royton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

In accordance with paragraph 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, I submit this, my annual report on the Public Health and allied services in the district for the year ended 31st December, 1969. The general format of the report is as in recent years with necessary amendments of text and tabular material.

The total population of the district continues to increase, and the mid 1969 estimate of 19,040 is 600 greater than the mid 1968 estimate and some 4,500 higher than the last full (1961) census. There was a further slight increase in the birth rate with 408 live births giving a crude rate of 21.4 and an adjusted rate of 24.4 per 1,000 to compare with a national rate of 16.3. The 204 deaths gave a crude death rate of 10.7 and an adjusted rate of 13.3 to compare with a national rate of 11.9. There was a sudden and steep increase in infant mortality rate with 15 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, giving an infant mortality rate of 37 - double the national rate of 18. This was however counter balanced by a reduction in the number of still births, and the combined effect was a fall in the perinatal mortality rate. As indicated in previous reports one must exercise great caution in interpreting variations in statistical rates in successive years in a comparatively small total population.

Total notifications of Infectious Diseases dropped to 110. There was a reduction in incidence of measles, only one case of dysentery and no case either of whooping cough or food poisoning notified.

In later sections of the report, Members will note that a further 253 new houses were constructed in the District during 1969 and 22 properties were demolished in confirmed clearance areas or after representation as individually unfit dwellings. The Chief Public Health Inspector has also made comment in his section upon extensions to Smoke Control Areas - at 31st December, 1969 a total of 3,682 properties were in five operative Smoke Control Areas.

Reference is also made to the continued 100% rate of meat inspection from the two slaughterhouses.

During the year the District Council had, with some regret, to accept the fact that it was not possible to obtain approval for further land for controlled tipping, but was able to come to terms with Middleton Borough for the disposal of refuse at the recently opened incinerator in Middleton. Although the cost of this may appear high, yet one has to set against this not only the preservation of amenity, but also the saving on mechanical repairs to vehicles (which frequently bogged down on the tip), the more predictable "turn round" time and the time saved in dealing with the inevitable complaints arising from the operation of tipping.

In September, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Morton, resigned following upon his obtaining a more senior appointment in Yorkshire, and the new Deputy did not take up duties until 1970. Although it is only in the last few weeks that the Department moved back into the reconstructed Town Hall, one can record that this has already boosted staff morale tremendously, and I must thank the Council for making available a well designed and compact suite of offices.

With the recent change of Government, it would appear that its predecessors proposals for re-organisation of Local Government and of Health Services are once agingt back "in the melting pot". One hopes however, that an authorative statement of amended or modified proposals will not be too long delayed, as prolonged uncertainty as to future duties and responsibilities is not conducive to good staff morale. It is to be hoped that any new administrative machinery will give due attention to the need for a well trained professional staff, responsible for Environmental Hygiene, which is one of the pillars of our civilisation.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your Obedient Servant,

G.R. BRACKENRIDGE.

Medical Officer of Health

General Statistics

Area in Acres		2,149
Population -	Census in 1961	14,476
	Registrar-General Estimate 1969	19,040
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1969.		6,808
Rateable value.		£625,228
Sum represented by penny rate.		£2,485 estimated.

Conditions of Locality

The Urban District Council was constituted in 1894, and took the place of the Local Government Board which had been in existence since 1863. The Council consists of fifteen members; the district being divided into five wards (Dogford, Dryclough, Haggate, Heyside and Thornham), with three Councillors representing each ward.

The District is situated in the South East of Lancashire on the lower slopes of the Pennines, and is bounded upon the north by the County Borough of Rochdale and on the south by the County Borough of Oldham. The eastern boundary adjoins the Urban District of Crompton and to the west lie the Urban District of Chadderton and the Borough of Middleton.

The number of cotton mills has declined and the cotton trade has lost its status as the principal industry in the district. Light engineering in its various forms has now taken precedence.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births (Total)		408
	Males	Females
Legitimate	186	200
Illegitimate	8	14
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population:-		
Crude Rate		21.4
Adjusted Rate		24.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		5
Stillbirths		4
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births		10
Total live and still births		412
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)		15
	Males	Females
Legitimate	5	9
Illegitimate	-	1
Infant Mortality Rates:-		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		37
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births		36
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births		45
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births		27
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week, per 1,000 total live births		25
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths		34
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)		1
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths		2.4
Total Deaths (All ages)		204
Death Rate per 1,000 population:-		
Crude rate		10.7
Adjusted rate		13.3
Principal causes of death:-		
1. Diseases of the heart and circulation		69
2. Respiratory diseases		36
3. Cancer (All sites)		36
4. Cerebrovascular disease		25

SYNOPSIS OF CENSUS 1961 RETURNS

(a) The following table shows the proportion of population falling into major working and dependant groups:

Total Population (both sexes)		14,474	100%
Child Population	Children under school age	1,102	7.5%
	School children aged 5-14	2,132	14.5%
	Total children under 15	3,234	22%
Men 15-64	"Working Population"	4,540	31%
Women	15-44 "Reproductive Pop."	2,780	19%
	Aged 45-60	1,663	11.5%
Elderly Persons	Females 60 and over	1,558	10.5%
	Males 65 and over	669	5%
	Total Pensionable	2,257	15.5%

(b) The following table shows the households in the district as classified by tenure and the presence of 4 specified "amenities."

	Total Households		5,103	%
Tenure	Owner Occupied		2,778	54%
	Local Authority Owned		844	16.5%
	Rented Unfurnished		1,263	25%
	Other forms of tenure		218	4.5%
Amenities	Without Exclusive Use of	Cold water tap	14	-
		Hot water system	1,245	24.5%
		Fixed bath	1,889	37%
		Water closet	955*	19%
	With all four above amenities		3,120	61%

* In retrospect, the Registrar General's department have admitted this figure may be an under estimate.

Comparative Table of Principal Vital Statistics

		1969	1968	1964	1959	1949
Live Births	No.	408	378	317	214	220
	Adjusted rate	21.4	24.0	21.2	15.49	14.9
Stillbirths	No.	4	11	3	4	3
	Adjusted rate	10	28	9.4	18.35	13
Total live and Stillbirths	No.	412	389	320	218	223
Total Infant deaths	No.	15	6	7	7	13
	Adjusted rate	37	11	22.1	32.7	59
Maternal deaths	No.	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Adjusted rate	2.4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total deaths	No.	204	194	198	200	201
	Adjusted rate	10.7	12.7	14.0	15.58	13.6

Infant Mortality - 1969

Cause of death	Under 1 Day	1 day to 1 Week	1 Wk to 1 Month	1 Mnth to 1 yr.	Total under 1 year
Pneumonia	1	1	-	-	2
Con. Anomalies.	1	1	-	-	2
Birth injury	3	-	-	-	3
Perinatal mortality	1	2	-	-	3
All other accidents	-	-	1	2	3
Enteritis	-	-	-	1	1
Meningitis	-	-	-	1	1
Totals	6	4	1	4	15

Deaths By Causation

Causes	M	F	1969 Total
Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
Other Tuberculosis, Incl. Late Effects	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	6	6	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	3	7
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
Other Endocrine Etc. Diseases	1	1	2
Meningitis	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	1	2	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	22	27	49
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	3	8
Cerebrovascular Disease	13	12	25
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	6	7
Pneumonia	6	7	13
Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	5	17
Asthma	-	1	1

Continued....

Deaths By Causation - Continued.

Causes	M	F	1969 Total
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	4	5
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	2	4
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	2	2
Abortion	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	2	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	2	1	3
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	3	3
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5
All Other Accidents	2	2	4
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuires	-	1	1
All Other External Causes	-	1	1
Total All Causes	94	110	204

Deaths - By Age Groups

YEARS	M	F	1969	1968	1964	1959
Under 1	5	10	15	4	7	7
1 - 5	-	-	-	2	1	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	5	-	1
15 - 25	1	2	3	4	3	-
25 - 35	-	1	1	-)	3	5
35 - 45	-	3	3	3)		
45 - 55	10	6	16	15)	52	49
55 - 65	23	16	39	43)		
65 - 75	23	27	50	48	62	67
Over 75	32	45	77	70	70	71
Totals	94	110	204	194	198	200

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1969

The full revised list of diseases notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health is now as follows:-

Anthrax
Cholera
Diptheria
Dysentery
Encephalitis (Acute)
Food Poisoning
Infective Jaundice
Leprosy
Leptospirosis
Malaria
Measles
Meningitis (Acute)
Ophthalmia neonatorum
Paratyphoid Fever
Plague
Poliomyelitis (Acute)
Relapsing Fever
Scarlet Fever
Smallpox
Tetanus
Tuberculosis
Typhoid Fever
Typhus
Whooping Cough
Yellow Fever

Statistics

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, age groups, and a comparison with notifications in previous years.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Notified Cases in Age Groups										
	Total Cases At All Ages	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65 & over	Age not known
Dysentery	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	97	5	34	29	28	-	1	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	7	-	1	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Totals	110	5	37	29	33	1	1	3	-	1	-

COMPARISON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	1969	1968	1964	1959
Dysentery	1	30	96	29
Measles	97	130	167	111
Meningitis (Acute) (d)	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia (a)	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	7	9	15	48
Tuberculosis	2	2	9	3
Whooping Cough	-	8	8	10
Infective Jaundice (c)	3	-	-	-
Totals	110	180	295	202

Reference

(a) Notifiable up to 30th September, 1968
(b) Notifiable from 1st October, 1968
(c) Notifiable from 1st June, 1968
(d) Previously listed as Meningococcal Infection

Diphtheria

Although it is now twenty years since the last case of diphtheria occurred in the district, the occasional small outbreaks reported in the country serve as a reminder that for our present freedom from this disease, we are primarily dependent on the maintenance of a high level of active immunisation in the child population.

Dysentery

There was a decrease, from 30 to 1 case, in the prevalence of this disease in the district as compared with 1968. This disease is generally recognised to serve as a fairly sensitive index of local standards of food preparation and personal hygiene. Most cases are fortunately mild, but the disease has a considerable nuisance value, and involves Public Health Department staff and the laboratory services in considerable work in collecting and examination of specimens.

Food Poisoning

No cases were notified in the district.

Measles

This year there was a decrease in the cases of measles from 130 in 1968 to 97 in 1969, principally occurring at the beginning of the year. The majority were mild and all were in children of pre-school or early school age group.

Poliomyelitis

No case occurred in the district during the year, and even the most convinced critic of immunisation must find it difficult to demonstrate reasons other than large-scale vaccination for the drastic decline in national incidence of this disease in the past 11 years.

Scarlet Fever

7 Cases were notified in the district during the year. Generally speaking the causative organism has lost a good deal of its former virulence, and, being sensitive to a wide range of chemo-therapeutic drugs, the sporadic cases now reported are of a mild character.

Smallpox

There were no cases of this disease during the year. It must be appreciated that the proportion of infants now given routine primary vaccination within the first 2 years of life is totally inadequate to maintain adequate community resistance, and it seems that only by constant vigilance on the part of Port and Airport Health Authorities can occasional outbreaks of this disease in Britain be avoided.

Whooping Cough

No cases were notified during the year. Assuming that parents of young children are prepared to make use of modern immunological technique, this potentially dangerous infection should never reach major proportions.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1969

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
	2		-		1		-	

The number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31st December, 1969 was:

	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	14	12	26
Non-respiratory	6	-	6
	20	12	32

This represents a net reduction of 4 cases in the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 14 Health Divisional Office at "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

1. Maternity and Child Health Service
2. Midwifery Services
3. Health Visiting Service
4. District Nursing Service
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Service
7. "Care" and "After Care" Services
8. Home Help Service
9. Mental Health Service
10. Care of Aged and Handicapped (Under National Assistance Act)

Clinics

Building work on major extensions to Milton Street Clinic commenced in August 1968, and the extensions were completed in February, 1969. The extended clinic is now of adequate size and suitably fitted for the needs of the district for many years.

Regular sessions of the following clinics are again held at Milton Street, Royton as follows:-

Ante-natal	- Every Wednesday afternoon at 2-0'clock.
Maternity and Child Health	- Every Monday and Thursday afternoon at 2-0'clock.

Health Visitors and School Nurses

Two full-time and one part-time health visitor/school nurses are now employed together with one school/clinic nurse, all being based at the Milton Street Clinic.

Day Nurseries

There is one 50 place day nursery at Radcliffe Street which is the responsibility of the County Council. There is also one industrial nursery as follows:-

Monarch Mill Day Nursery

Application for admission to the Radcliffe Street Day Nursery, which is open daily from 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. should be made direct to the Matron. Charges are based on an income scale prescribed by the Lancashire County Council.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

Midwifery Service

Three domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at the school clinic, Milton Street, on Wednesday afternoon at 2-0'clock. The midwives are:-

Miss M.L. Buckley	112 Sherriff St., Rochdale (Roch.46389)
Mrs. A.A. Cheetham	Chamber Road, Shaw. (SH9 7301)
Miss A. Turner	54 Milton St., Royton. (MAIn 5669)

District Nursing Service

Nursing staff serving the district routinely are:-

Mrs. E. Brock	2 Dale Square, Royton (Main 6593)
Mrs. M. Clarke	42 Surrey Ave., High Crompton.(SH9 7618)
Mrs. N. Flynn	3 Trent Ave., Shaw (SH9 7268)
Mrs. F. Knight	52 Richmond Ave., Royton (624 9062)
Miss S. Todd	43 Albert Street, Royton (624 2896)
Miss M. Goodier	13 Clarence Street, Royton.

The services of a male district charge nurse, Mr. C.S. Croasdale, are available for certain cases, and there are also relief nurses serving Royton and adjacent districts.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Protective vaccination and immunisation is now routinely offered to all children against the following diseases; smallpox, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. Oral poliomyelitis vaccination is available for all between 6 months and 40 years of age, and certain other priority groups (e.g. expectant mothers) over 40 years. B.C.G. vaccine (against tuberculosis) is offered to school children found to be tuberculin-negative at about 13 years of age. Measles vaccine has been available since the summer of 1968, but in limited quantity, and certain difficulties were encountered in supplies during 1969.

Arrangements for such immunisation may be made either to the school clinic or with Local General Practitioners.

Ambulance

The ambulance service is administered by the Health Division No. 14, ambulances being under radio-control from a control centre at Whitefield (766-6666). The district is served by vehicles based on Crompton and Middleton ambulance stations.

Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of tuberculosis are referred.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are available for various classes of illness, priority being given to maternity cases, the elderly and infirm. Application for the services of a Home Help should be made to the Divisional Medical Officer.

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council, residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available, is now provided at eight hostels controlled by Health Division 14. There is, however, a waiting list for accommodation.

The statutory services comprising health visitors, home nurses, home helps and laundry service, co-operate with the voluntary bodies providing chiropody, home visiting, meals-on-wheels, etc., in order to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes, whenever possible.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDRENS ACTS

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Children's Officer for this district is based at Jowett's Walk, Manchester Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, telephone No. 330-4338/9.

School Health Service

The Divisional Medical Officer and Medical Officer (Departmental) are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton as follows:-

Minor Ailments	-	Every Monday and Thursday morning.
*Ophthalmic	-	Alternate Monday mornings.
*Dental	-	Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning.

* By appointment.

Hospital Service

Hospitals normally utilised by patients from Royton are:-

General and Maternity Cases	-	Oldham and District General Hospital
	-	Oldham Royal Infirmary
Infectious Disease	-	Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Royton, Lancs.

August, 1970.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

In the main there are two items which I wish to highlight. The first being, that of smoke control areas. The No. 5 Smoke Control Area progressed very satisfactorily and smoothly. The credit for this achievement goes to all concerned for their co-operation in this endeavour, especially the general public for their acceptance of the necessary alterations and improvements. It is unfortunate that during the winter months a dark cloud came over this worthwhile job in the shape of doubts on the availability of solid smokeless fuels. One hopes that through the Minister of the Crown these doubts will not reach such proportions as to nullify the progress already achieved.

The second point is that at last the Council can take pride in having abolished all except two of the known waste water closets by the end of the year. One feels that at last some of the insanitary parts of the town are no more, and basic improvements are being achieved.

Although reference is made to it later in the report, the decision to use the Borough of Middleton's incinerator as a means of refuse disposal was another advancement, not only did this delay the need to provide another refuse tip urgently, but has also removed the cause of so much concern and antagonism towards the tipping of refuse so close to the inhabitants. It is only by the pre-treatment of household refuse that one can achieve any degree of satisfaction in its disposal.

In closing I would like to thank Dr. Brackenridge the Medical Officer of Health for his advice and guidance during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C. BUCKLEY

Chief Public Health Inspector

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The town now has five confirmed smoke control areas and at the close of the year in question a sixth was being prepared for consideration by the Council. It is pleasing to report this has since received confirmation.

The following table sets out the progress in this field.

Area	No. of properties	Date of Operation
1. Flake Lane	339	November 1959
2. Oozewood	220	September 1963
3. Thornham	1100	December 1967
4. R.U.D.C. No. 4 Area	522	November 1968
5. R.U.D.C. No. 5 Area	1501	November 1969
6. R.U.D.C. No. 6 Area	1159	April 1971

It is very pleasing to report that progress has been maintained in this facet of our work. In order to comply with the Clean Air Act many existing firegrates have to be converted. Grants are available to the owner or tenant of properties needing conversion, totalling 7/10th of the approved costs of the reasonable conversions. 3/10th from the local authority and 4/10th from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In areas where a large number of conversions are necessary, this can put a severe strain on the finances of a small authority and it is pleasing to report that since staff increases have been made, the Council have tentatively agreed to consider one area each year and for the programme to be completed with seven years. (1973)

SMOKE CONTROL ACT

At the close of the year a fresh look was taken at the remainining areas to be surveyed. The Council accepted a report put before them in which it was proposed that the four remaining areas should be redesigned to form three areas. This was possible because of the experience gained over the past few years, since the adoption of the plan to consider one smoke control area each year. It was also necessary because of changes made in the town, principally by the closure of the railway, the track of which originally formed boundaries of two smoke control areas.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In January it was found necessary to lay before the magistrates information against:-

Mr. T. Dwayer	55 Kensington Avenue
Mrs. R. English	7 Bromley Avenue
Mr. J. Ogden	12 Bromley Avenue
Mr. J.T. Howarth	30 Lewisham Close
Mr. M. Joyce	2 Westminster Avenue

for emitting smoke from the chimney of the building under their control, contrary to section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956.

With the exception of Mrs. English all were fined £3 each. Mrs. English was discharged.

In December it was found necessary to lay before the magistrates information against Booth Hill Auto-Spares Limited for committing a nuisance by allowing the burning of a van, causing black smoke and fumes.

On a plea of guilty the magistrates granted a Nuisance Order against the firm and awarded 5 gns costs with ten shillings and sixpence court fees.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement

Various methods are available depending on what particular constituent is to be measured. In common with the surrounding districts, Royton is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee.

Briefly, the lead peroxide gauge, situated in Royton Park consists of a louvred box containing a material coated with a chemical which reacts with the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The chemical analysis of this instrument is taken monthly. With the volumetric instrument situated in the sewage works, air is drawn through a chemical solution, which retains the sulphur contents of the air.

The quantity of the air passing through the instrument is measured and so a more positive resultant figure is achieved. An attachment is incorporated with this instrument, which filters the air drawn into it, giving what is known as a "smoke stain"; the results of the volumetric apparatus are collated each day.

Individual findings are subject to so many variable factors that a true interpretation of results in any district can only be based on repeated observations at a large number of points over a period of years. Nor can the results in any one district be fairly related to those in another, unless, amongst other things, the siting of the instruments are fully comparable. It is the practice in interpreting the results, to compare summer and winter periods with the like periods.

The following tables show the readings obtained for each month of 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 from the two instruments located in the district of Royton.

Estimate of Sulphur Dioxide Expressed mgms

Mg. SO3/day/100 cm^2 - Batch A.PbO_2

(Louvred Cover)

Site - Royton Park

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.7
1968	2.27	2.43	1.71	1.39	1.09	0.84	0.78	0.57	0.90	1.4	2.2	2.0
1967	2.69	2.40	1.75	1.28	1.46	0.82	0.78	1.23	0.90	1.5	2.9	1.7
1966	2.74	2.66	1.73	1.95	1.25	1.11	0.58	0.92	1.13	1.59	1.76	1.88
1965	2.73	1.46	2.43	1.50	1.23	1.02	0.85	1.02	1.16	-	-	-

Volumetric Apparatus

Average Sulphur Dioxide Content Measured in Micrograms per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969	123	163	111	80	84	83	78	87	76	-	102	126
1968	117	102	80	115	91	77	87	99	99	101	105	140
1967	137	121	76	59	90	128	94	112	135	125	178	159
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	134	138	94	127

Average Smoke Content Measured in Micrograms per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec
1969	193	184	92	75	49	33	26	43	43	-	72	121
1968	217	109	118	112	97	55	42	46	62	78	137	225
1967	267	145	62	77	61	78	42	57	81	93	296	150
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142	155	181	176

WATER SUPPLY

The Urban District is supplied with water by the West Pennine Water Board from their moorland gathering ground on the Pennine Range to the north east of Oldham. Royton is fed from the Piethorn and Hanging Lees reservoirs and all supplies are treated for pH correction and then chlorinated. The West Pennine Water Board take weekly bacteriological samples from these two sources and in addition chemical samples are taken quarterly. Further samples are taken for bacteriological examination from premises throughout the whole area supplied by the West Pennine Water Board.

The water supply contains natural fluoride in the proportion of 0.1 to 0.3 P.P.M.

During the year there has been several occasions when the inhabitants have experienced receiving a dirty water supply. On these occasions the West Pennine Water Board have been notified and the particular mains have been cleansed.

There are, however, a number of properties in the district which are supplied with water from private wells and springs. These premises, 28 in number, are situated in the more isolated parts of Royton, at Thorp, Royley Clough and Heyside (Bull Cote Lane). In the case of supplies from these isolated wells, advice on the usage of the water was given.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Streetbridge in detritus and precipitation tanks, afterwards passing through the percolating filters to humus tanks and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irk. Sludge drying beds are provided. The only areas of the district without a proper drainage system are isolated farm communities and a few domestic properties.

FACTORIES

43 Inspections were made during the year. These factories were found to comply with the requirements of the Act.

FACTORY ACT INSPECTIONS

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
*(1)	10	5	-	-
*(2)	79	38	-	-
*(3)	-	-	-	-
Total	89	43	-	-

* (1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.

* (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.

* (3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises).

2. OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110		Section 111			
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(C)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prose-cutions of failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prose-cutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	-	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The cleansing department comprises the following vehicles and personnel:-

1 - Dennis Paxit 35 cu. yd.
1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 20 cu. yd.
1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 18 cu. yd.
1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 15 cu. yd. (for paper collection)
1 - Part-time use of 990 tractor.
13 - Workmen are engaged as refuse collectors. including one acting as a tipman and one as a paper baler.

The drivers of the vehicles are seconded from the Surveyor's Department who have control of the whole of the transport fleet.

The disposal of refuse has been the subject of many discussions during the year not only from a local point of view but by a joint local authority group. This group engaged the assistance of the Local Government Operational Research Unit to carry out a more detailed study and to prepare possible schemes for future refuse disposal.

This report outlined the present and future trends of refuse collection and disposal and projected costs when it was estimated a plant could be in operation.

The costs apportioned to the authority were considered to be high and there were several matters left inconclusive. Therefore before committing this authority to the additional expence it was decided that the Treasurer should go more deeply into the costing of the whole scheme.

The final meeting of the joint authorities did reveal a majority of members uncertain of their future commitments in this field, therefore a new appraisal of the whole situation is to be undertaken.

During the year under review it was felt the time had come to take urgent steps to find some alternative method for the disposal of household refuse. The tipping area was filling up at an alarming rate and the outcome of the joint authority action could only come to fruition in a minimum of five to six years time.

After many discussions it was agreed with Middleton Corporation that we enter into a contract with them to dispose of our combustible refuse at their new incinerator at a cost of £2.2.0. per ton. The contract was to run in the first instance for a period of 5 years with an option to extend at the end of that time.

Actual disposal at the Middleton plant began in October, 1969 and from then to the end of the year a total of 976 tons 5 cwts. 2 qrs. of debris has been delivered to this plant. So far it is fair to say that this co-operation between the authorities has proved of great benefit to both parties and we are indebted to Middleton Corporation for making this agreement.

DUSTBINS

The dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the rate fund. 310 dustbins were supplied during the year under this replacement scheme. In addition, 104 dustbins were sold principally to house-owners in new properties.

PAPER BALING

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Sold For £	s.	d.
Amount baled during	1966	153	16	2	1230	6	0
" " "	1967	159	2	0	1145	10	6
" " "	1968	163	2	2	1141	17	0
" " "	1969	157	17	2	1302	2	10

SCRAP METAL

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Sold For £	s.	d.
Amount collected	1966	5	10	0	26	16	0
" "	1967	8	15	0	35	0	0
" "	1968	13	11	2	32	0	9
" "	1969	11	0	3	25	9	1

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

With the coming into operation of this new Act, the local authorities were given powers to remove abandoned vehicles and to provide facilities whereby the general public could deposit debris not collected by the accepted refuse collection service. It also provided for the collection by local authorities, of household goods too large or cumbersome for the refuse collection service; this service we have been giving for several years.

The records show the following:-

Number of vehicles dealt with by the department during the year.....	19
Number of requests for removal of additional household goods.....	480

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the approximate number of various sanitary conveniences in the district at the end of the year.

CLOSETS

Privy - midden closets	Nil
Pail closets	28
Trough closets	NIL
Waste water closets	2
Fresh water closets	7497

During the year 83 waste water closets were converted this increase in the number being largely due to the efforts of the Council to rid the town of these obsolete closets by increasing the grant available to owners of property.

SHOPS AND OFFICES

85 Inspections of shops were made during the year. Although this shows some improvement, I am of the opinion that it is only by the time consuming method of repeated visits and education that much of the improvements will come. Some success is being seen but is so far only in small amounts. No doubt when the new shopping precinct becomes operative this will serve as a boost to the other shopkeepers to uplift their premises.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

	Class of Premises				
	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale shops warehouses	Catering Establishments open to public Canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
(i) No. of registered premises at end of year.	8	51	6	14	1
(ii) No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.	3	31	4	9	1
(iii) No. of exemptions at end of year:-					
Space (S.5(2))	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Temperature (S6)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Convenience (S9)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Washing Facilities (S10)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

SWIMMING BATHS

The baths were extensively reconstructed in 1961-62.

The building now houses one plunge bath, 10 slipper baths, and 2 vapour baths.

The plunge bath is 75 feet long, 27 feet wide and a graduated depth along its length from 3 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 3 inches. The feed water in the plunge bath is supplied from the town's main, and there is a continuous circulation treatment of the water, whilst in use. Water being drawn from the deep end of the bath is chlorinated, filtered, reheated and finally aerated before being returned to the shallow end of the plunge. The time for a complete change of water through the circulatory system is $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

The temperature of the water in the plunge is maintained at approximately 76°F., and tests to determine the alkalinity or otherwise of the water are taken three or more times daily as the circumstances demand. The figures maintained are:-

	pH value	7.8
	alkalinity	2 p.p. 1,000,000
Chlorine	residual	1 p.p. 1,000,000
	combined	1.5 p.p. 1,000,000

On one side of the entrance hall there are 5 slipper and one vapour bath for men, and on the other side of the hall are 5 slipper baths and one vapour bath for ladies. Sanitary accommodation is provided at suitable positions throughout the building.

The conditions of the baths have been fully satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part-time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The South East Lancashire Advisory Committee meets twice yearly under the auspices of the Divisional Rodent Office, joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

(1) No. of Rodent Operatives employed - (a) Full time - none
- (b) Part time - one

(2) Action relating to rodent control during the year.

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in the district.	6793	18
(b) Total number of properties (inc. nearby premises) inspected following notification.	992	15
(c) No. of (b) infested by		
Rats	97	3
Mice	105	NIL
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	94	5
(e) No. of (d) infested by		
Rats	7	NIL
Mice	23	NIL

FOOD PREMISES

70 Visits were made to food premises during the year. With the constantly recurring emphasis on outbreaks of food poisoning and dysentery, this is not a happy state of affairs. All food premises should be regularly visited as a matter of routine.

The following are the various types of premises in the district where food is prepared or sold.

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers	58
Greengrocers and fruiterers	8
Fishmongers	-
Meat Shops (Butchers, etc.)	15
Bakers and/or confectioners	12
Fried fish shops	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, etc.	24
Licenced premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, etc.,	56
Others	8

Milk Supply

Milk distributors			49
Dealer's licences	-	pasteurised milk	6
		sterilised milk	45
		tuberculin tested milk	7
Supplementary licences	-	pasteurised milk	14
		sterilised milk	15
		tuberculin tested milk	15

Sampling milk is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Countil.

SAMPLING FOOD

I am indebted to Dr. C.H.T. Wade, County Medical Officer of Health for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

Food and Drugs Act 1955

A total of 91 samples was obtained comprising 61 milks (8 of which were Channel Islands milk) and 30 others as follows:-

1 Pork Luncheon Meat
3 Cheese
1 Yoghurt
1 Instant Dessert Powder
1 Beef Pie
3 Fish, canned
1 Honey
1 Baby Food (Beef) Dinner
1 Sterilised Cream
1 Baby Food (Lamb Dinner)
1 Cake
1 Flour Confectionery
1 Scones
1 Fresh Grapefruit
1 Steak & Kidney Pie
1 Chicken Patties
1 Breakfast Cereal
1 Blancmange Powder
1 Glucose with Vitamin D
1 Tea
1 Potatoes, canned
2 Soup, canned
1 Sauce
1 Ham & Chicken Roll Canned
1 Shepherds Pie Filling

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Shepherds Pie Filling.	Carton labelled "Shepherds Pie" but contained Shepherds Pie Filling (Meat content 89%) and a separate packet of dry potato topping. Name of product should indicate its true nature i.e. not "Shepherds Pie" but something akin to Shepherds Pie Ingredients Pack.	Manufacturer communicated with.
Cake	Contained 11 fragments of hard compacted mouldy flour, weighing in all 2.95 grammes.	Prosecution - Fined £40 Costs £13.10s.
Flour Confectionery	Contained a very badly damaged part moth (which from the genitalla appeared to be Ephestia Kuhniella) measuring 10 millimetres in length and weighing 4 milligrams.	Bakers Cautioned.

UNSOUND FOOD	Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.	ozs.
Fruit & Vegetables	-	-	3	16	-
Frozen Foods	1	13	2	22	-
	1	14	2	10	-

SLAUGHTERHOUSE & MEAT INSPECTION

This is the fourth year a full 100% meat inspection has been carried out and it is pleasing to be able to report this.

The figures in the following table show a slight decrease in the number of animals killed as compared with 1968.

However, when converted to the unit equivalent it is found that there has been a slight increase in the overall throughput from 280,006 to 282,992 units. This can then be calculated to equate the provision of fresh meat for a population of 188,661.

CARCASE AND OFFAL inspected and condemned in whole or part

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	8661	2213	75	51432	23721
Number Inspected	8661	2213	75	51432	23721
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	-	-	1	1	62
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1538	789	NIL	2798	4471
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	17.76%	35.66%	1.33%	5.44%	19.11%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

The following amounts of meat were found to be unfit for food at the slaughterhouses.

		Tons	Cwts	Qrs	lbs.
Other Diseases	- Offal	12	1	-	15
	Carcase	4	1	-	98
		16	3	-	1

The condemned meat is collected and disposed of by an approved trader.

The regulations curtailing the number of hours of slaughter have proved their worth and I think in the main, the trade have realised that it is more economical to concentrate their throughput and not just 'red tape' on the part of the local authorities. However there have been occasions when the allotted hours have been extended but as, has been pointed out to the proprietors any increase in their trade beyond the output of their employees would indicate an increase in manpower and not an extension of the permitted slaughtering hours.

The hours permitted are as follows:-

Monday	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	7 a.m. to 12 noon.

One hour to be taken for lunch. The last animal to be killed one hour before finishing time.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In January information was laid before the magistrates that Booth & Taylor (W.M.S.) Limited did slaughter 17 pigs contrary to the hours laid down by this Council under the Meat Regulations 1963/66. A plea of guilty was accepted and a fine of £10 imposed with £5 costs.

HOUSING

Number of New Dwellings Erected During the Year

1.	By the local authority	Maisonettes	NIL
		Flats	NIL
2.	By other local authorities	Houses	NIL
		Flats	NIL
3.	By other bodies or persons	Houses	253
		Flats	NIL

Total number of dwellings owned by any local authority existing in the district at the end of the year. 1249

Inspections of Dwellings During the Year

1. a.	Total number of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	605
b.	Number of inspections, formal or informal made for the purpose.	1082
c.	Number of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	83
2.	Total number of dwellings existing at the end of the year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which -	
a.	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time).	25
b.	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made.	-

Houses Demolished

A. In or Adjoining Clearance Areas

1.	Houses unfit for human habitation	21
2.	Persons displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	34
3.	Families displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	18

B. Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas

4.	As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17 (1), Housing Act 1957.	1
5.	Persons displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	15
6.	Families displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	6

C. Unfit Houses Closed

7.	As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16(4) S.17(1) and S.35 (1) Housing Act, 1957.	1
8.	Persons displaced during the year from houses to be closed.	4
9.	Families displaced during the year from houses to be closed.	1

Unfit Houses Made Fit

1.	By owners after informal action by local authority.	69
2.	After formal notice under Public Health Acts.	73

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 and Housing Act 1961 and 1964 - Standard Grants

Action During the Year	No. of dwellings or other buildings affected
1. Application submitted to local authority for improvement to	
(a) Full Standard	55
(b) Reduced Standard	NIL
2. Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to:-	
(a) Full Standard	54
(b) Reduced Standard	NIL
3. Work completed.	47
4. Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwelling	NIL

With regard to the compilation of the figures under this heading, I wish to express my thanks to the Engineer and Surveyor.